

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 SAA-01 /097 W  
-----021283 310408Z /13

R 301130Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9312  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
USINT HAVANA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
USLO PEKING  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 6157

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, CU, AF  
SUBJECT: VISITS BY TWO AFGHAN DELEGATIONS TO HAVANA COULD  
PORTEND CLOSER BILATERAL TIES

1. SUMMARY. THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED AFGHAN MEDIA  
ANNOUNCED JULY 26 THAT TWO DELEGATIONS HAD DEPARTED  
FOR CUBA TO ATTEND THAT COUNTRY'S CELEBRATION OF THE  
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS REVOLUTION, AS WELL AS THE  
11TH WORLD FESTIVAL OF YOUTH. THESE TWO VISITS  
SUGGEST THAT AFGHAN-CUBAN RELATIONS ARE BECOMING  
CLOSER, NOT A REASSURING DEVELOPMENT IN AFGHANISTAN'S  
INTERNATIONAL TIES. END OF SUMMARY.

2. HEADING THE DELEGATION TO CUBA'S CELEBRATION OF  
THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS REVOLUTION ARE TWO MEMBERS  
OF THE POLITBURO OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
OF AFGHANISTAN (PDPA), MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
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DR. SHAH WALI, AND MINISTER OF FINANCE ABDUL KARIM  
MISAQ. LEADER OF THE FORTY-MEMBR DELEGATION FROM  
THE PEOPLE'S YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AFGHANISTAN WAS  
NOT IDENTIFIED, BUT THE GROUP WAS SEEN OFF AT THE  
AIRPORT BY MINISTER OF RADIO-TV SULAIMAN LAIQ, WHO,  
FOR THE FIRST TIME, WAS IDENTIFIED AS HAVING RE-  
SPONSIBILITY FOR ALL THE PDPA'S "PEOPLE'S ORGANIZA-

TIONS." THE TWO GROUPS STOPPED IN MOSCOW ON THEIR WAY TO HAVANA.

3. COMMENT: THESE TWO VISITS UNDERSCORE THE DISTINCTLY WARMING TREAD IN AFGHQN-CUBAN RELATIONS. THIS TREND MAY BE FURTHER ACCELERATED IF A CURRENT RUMOR MAKING THE ROUNDS HERE TURNS OUT TO BE TRUE: THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL SOON EXCHANGE RESIDENT AMBASSADORS. SHAH WALI AND MISAQ WERE REFERRED TO BY BOTH THEIR PARTY AND GOVERNMENTAL TITLES IN THE AFGHAN MEDIA, SUGGESTING THAT THEY ARE TRAVELING TO HAVANA IN THE CAPACITY OF PARTY REPRESENTATIVES, AS WELL AS EMISSARIES OF THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT. ATTENDANCE BY THE AFGHAN YOUTH DELEGATION AT THE YOUTH FESTIVAL IS NOT A REASSURING STEP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFGHANISTAN'S INTERNATIONAL TIES.  
DUBS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, VISITS, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KABUL06157  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISITS BY TWO AFGHAN DELEGATIONS TO HAVANA COULD PORTEND CLOSER BILATERAL TIES  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, CU, AF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/99dcf071-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014